United Nations E/1998/10

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
13 April 1998

Original: English

Substantive session of 1998
6-31 July 1998
Item 14 (a) of the provisional agenda*
Social and human rights questions: advancement of women

Implementation of the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 1996/34, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001, taking into account the comments of the Commission on the Status of Women contained in its resolution 40/10 and the annex thereto, and the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination. In the same resolution, the Council decided to undertake, in 1998, a comprehensive mid-term review of the implementation of the revised plan as a basis for future programming and coordination or activities for the advancement and empowerment of women by the United Nations system, including a review of progress made in mainstreaming a gender perspective in all activities of the United Nations system. The Secretary-General was requested to submit to the Council, through the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-second session, a progress report on the implementation of the revised system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women.

2. The report, which was before the Commission on the Status of Women at is forty-second session in document E/CN.6/1998/3, will be transmitted to the Council in accordance with its resolution 1996/34.

3. The attention of the Council is also drawn to draft resolution III entitled "Mid-term review of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001, including the status of women in the Secretariat", contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1998/27) and recommended to the Council for adoption. The Committee for Programme and Coordination will consider the report during the first part of its thirty-eighth session (1-26 June 19998). Any comments which the committee may adopt with regard to the mid-term progress report will be brought to the attention of the Council.

* E/1998/100

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4. In its resolution 1996/34, the Council requested the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, to formulate a new system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women to cover the period 2002-2005. A new draft plan is to be submitted to the Council at its substantive session of 2000 in order to provide guidance for the medium-term plans of the individual organizations of the United Nations system. The draft is to be submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fourth session, for comments.